

AI 150 Iranian Women Writers and Filmmakers

Loop Campus; Tuesdays, 6:00- 9:00 P.M.

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Course Description: Western media has portrayed an erroneous image of Iranian women. Through this course students will have the opportunity to discover the reality of women in Iran after the Islamic revolution. Students will explore how Iranian women authors and directors have confronted censorship, by creating new ways of resistance. Students will respond to these works, through research, discussion and reflection upon the social, political and gender context.

About the Instructor: Ezzat Goushegir earned her M.F.A in Playwriting from the University of Iowa. She has published 3 books in Persian including THE WOMAN, THE ROOM, AND LOVE-...AND SUDDENLY THE PANTHER CRIED: WOMAN a collection of short stories and MIGRATION IN THE SUN a book of poetry. She is a regular contributor to literary journals and her plays have been produced by a variety of theatre companies.

Competencies Offered:

A-1-E: Can interpret the work of writers or artists within a historical or social context.

A-5: Creativity can define and analyze a creative process.

H-1-X: Can articulate and analyze creative responses to social and political inequality.

H-3-B: Can explain how two or more of the factors of race, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, age, gender, sexual orientation, or religion interact to shape oneself or others.

H-5" Can analyze issues and problems from global perspective.

The Learning Experience: This course engages reading, discussions and screening of full length films. Each class will begin with a brief introduction related to the topic of focus, followed by discussion of readings and /or screening. Each week students will respond to these works through research, gathering information about films and topics related to the course. Students are required to give 20 minutes critical analysis presentation about the choice of topics, followed by class discussion. Students may have a choice to attend the Iranian Film Festival during the month of October, in Gene Siskel Film center.

Required Readings:

Kinzer,Stephen. All The Shah's Men, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, New Jersey, 2003

Satrapi, Marjane. Persepolis, Pantheon, 2003

Mohammad Mehdi, A feast in the mirror, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2000

Attendance and Participation: Regular attendance and class participation is highly required. Students are expected to be in class on time, and remain until class ends.

Evidence to be Submitted: An Analytic Essay, presenting a new perspective on a topic related to all the competencies. Writing a proposal describing how you will address the competencies, no later than 6th week of the class. A bibliography of the additional sources to be included. Minimum length of the Essay will be 10 pages (word processed, double spaced)

Standards and Criteria

The Analytic Essay will be evaluated on: Your articulation and analytic discussion on the main idea of the chosen topic, using your research and support from the course reading, class discussion and personal experience.

Grading and Evaluation

Attendance	10 points
Class Participation	25 points
Oral Presentation	25 points
Analytic Essay	40 points

Class Schedule

Date	Topics	Assignment for this week	Film screening
6/29/04	A Brief history of Iran	All The Shah's Man	Our Times (R.Bani Etemad)
7/6/04	Introduction Women's liberation Movement in Iran	All The Shah's Man	The house is black (Forugh Farrokhzad, 1965) I Shall salute to Sun Once Again (Saboori)
7/13/04	Revolution and The Role of Women	(Oral Presentation)	TBA
7/20/04	Growing up as a Girl after Islamic Revolution	Persepolis (O-P)	
7/27/04	Sex, Virginity, Teenage Pregnancy and Marriage	Staged Reading of a Play (O-P)	TBA
8/3/04	Political Women Prisoners	The Bathhouse (O-P)	Women Prisoners (Hekmat-2001)
8/10/04	War and Oppression	A Feast In the Mirror (O-P)	TBA
8/17/04	Women & resistance	(O-P)	Two women (Tahmineh Milani, 2000)
8/24/04	The birth of new voices	(O-P)	The day I became a woman (Marzieh Meshkini)
8/31/04	Confronting Authority- searching for new identity	A Feast In the Mirror (O-P)	Divorce Iranian Style (Longinotto & Mir- Hosseini-1998)
9/7/04	Due date for Essay		